

REMARKS

Support for the amendment to claim 1 can be found, for example, at page 15, lines 30-31, and page 59, line 15, of Applicants' specification. Support for new claim 16 can be found in original claim 4. Support for new claim 17 can be found, for example, at page 15, lines 33-36 of Applicants' specification. Support for new claim 18 can be found at page 16, lines 1-7. Support for new claim 19 can be found at page 15, lines 33-36 of the specification. Support for new claim 20 can be found in original claim 3. No new matter has been added.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §101 and §112

The amendments to the claims render the rejections moot. Thus, it is respectfully requested that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §101 and §112 be withdrawn

Obviousness Type Double Patenting Rejection

Claims 1-4 and 6-8 and 10-13 stand rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-22 of U.S. Patent No. 6,858,268.

The rejection is moot in light of the terminal disclaimer filed herewith. Thus, it is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1-8 and 10-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as allegedly being anticipated by DE 10221751 (or WO 2002/00979 or equivalent US 2004/0,173,775).

US 2004/0173775 (Suermann et al) discloses a cholesteric LC (CLC) mixture, wherein the nematic host mixture *may* comprise compounds that contain a trifluorophenyl group. However, as can be seen at paragraphs 0374 and 0375, the maximum concentration of these compounds in the liquid crystal mixtures is preferably from 0% to 50%.

The reference is silent regarding a nematic host component having at least 75%

of trifluorophenyl compounds.

Thus, it is respectfully requested that the rejections under 35 USC §102 be withdrawn.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 2, 8-9 and 11-13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being obvious over DE 10039377 (equivalent US 2003/0052305 or US 6,660,345). Claims 2, 8-9 and 11-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over DE 10039377 (equivalent US 2003/0052305 or US 6,660,345). Claims 1-6 and 8-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over US 2001/0,004,108 or US 6,565,932). Claims 14 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over US 2001/0004108 as applied to claims 1-6 and 8-13 above, and further in view of US 2002/0003827.

The cited references do not disclose or suggest a medium wherein the nematic host comprises at least 75% of trifluorophenyl compounds.

As can be seen in Example 2 and on page 14 and 15 of Applicants' specification, the high amount of trifluorophenyl compounds in the medium according to the present invention leads to unexpected and improved properties, such as high specific resistance and high voltage holding ratio (VHR), making them suitable for active-matrix driven CLC displays. Low UV absorption makes them suitable for laser applications.

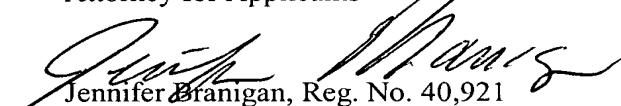
Example 2 (page 61) clearly shows that a CLC mixture containing at least 75% of trifluorophenyl compounds has a high VHR and low UV absorption (see also Figures 1 and 2). In contrast, the CLC mixture of comparative Example 1 (page 61-62), which does not contain at least 75% trifluorophenyl compounds, has a low VHR and high UV absorption, and is therefore less suitable for the above-mentioned uses. See also the discussion of the comparative data at page 62, line 29, to page 63, line 14.

Thus, it is respectfully requested that the rejections under 35 USC§103 be withdrawn.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this response or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-3402.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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